

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, JULY 27, 2021

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, July 27, 2021. Commissioners Carl Schmitz, Bill Collins, and Randy Thornburg were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Deacon Mark McDonald lead the Commissioners in prayer.

MINUTES

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the minutes from July 7, 2021; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve minutes from the July 7, 2021, Executive Session; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLAIMS

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the claims as presented; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the June Treasurer's Report; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLERK'S REPORT

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve the June Clerk's report; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

BRIDGE 243 BIDS

B. Collins opened the following bids for Bridge 243:
Ragle: \$813,502.25
Russel Excavating \$642,399.00

Posey County Highway Superintendent, Steve Schenk, is recommending the Commissioners approve the low bid of Russell Excavating.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the low bid of Russell Excavating; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

AMERICAN STRUCTURE POINT/WESTERN BYPASS AMENDMENT

B. Collins stated this amendment is giving the approval to begin work on section 1a, which will be Base Road to Givens Road.

C. Schmitz asked the American Structure Point representative when in the design phase to please stay as close to the railroad right of way as possible so that minimal farmland is wasted between the road and the railroad.

Todd Stout, with Structure Point, stated the company has already addressed this issue and is working with the railroad on this issue.

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve this amendment; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND HANDBOOK

Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, stated the amendment to consider was drafted at the request of the Highway Superintendent; Mrs. Greenwell stated this would amend the handbook to read that highway employees will be capped at 120 compensation hours and will have the opportunity to choose between compensation hours and overtime pay.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this amendment to the handbook; C. Schmitz seconded.

Joe Harrison stated the second paragraph of the ordinance to change had been omitted from the revised handbook in 2018, but it was in the original handbook.

R. Thornburg made a motion to waive the second reading of the handbook change; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the handbook revision; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

SHERIFF BODY SCANNER BIDS

B. Collins stated the County received one bid for the Sheriff's Body Scanner.

Romaine Companies: \$188,352.62

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, stated the specs look sufficient, and the funds will be taken from the Jail Maintenance fund, which are gained from housing inmates.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve these bids; C. Schmitz seconded.

M. Greenwell asked if the Sheriff was still planning to make payments on this equipment now that he has a firm price.

Sheriff Latham stated he was not sure yet; he wanted to speak with both the Company and the financing company.

The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

COVID SMALL BUSINESS GRANT APPROVAL

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the small business Covid-19 OCRA grant application list; C. Schmitz seconded.

C. Schmitz stated the County has \$103,750.00 left to be awarded. Mr. Schmitz stated if the County does not use the remainder in ten days, the County would be returning those funds to the State. Mr. Thornburg stated he has spoken to four different companies that have been trying to contact the grant administrator. M. Greenwell asked that those companies call her, and she will make sure their information is relayed.

B. Collins stated Dutchman Farms had withdrawn their request, even though they had met all of the qualifications.

The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

ORDINANCE TO CONSIDER BOARD PARTICIPATION VIA ELECTRONIC MEANS

B. Collins stated the Commissioners have two versions of this ordinance to consider, version one that is consistent with what the State recommends, and version two that was provided by Commissioners Thornburg.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve version two.

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve version one

R. Thornburg stated he is against this version because the language exempts a board member from being held accountable for attending meetings. Mr. Thornburg stated the Commissioners are a three-member board and cannot be compared to any other board.

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve version one; C. Schmitz seconded. The motion carried with a vote 2-1, with R. Thornburg opposing.

COMMISSIONER'S BUDGET FORM 1

Mrs. Greenwell stated she provided the Commissioners with the proposed Form 1's that will be submitted to Council from approval.

Mrs. Greenwell stated the following changes were proposed:

4H Premiums reducing by \$2,500.00

Community Center Building increasing by \$2,500.00

C. Schmitz made a motion to approve these changes; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, gave the following housing update:

DOC: 16

Vanderburgh County: 25

Posey County: 84

Total: 124

Commissioners Randy Thornburg gave the following Workforce Development update:

US Unemployment: 5.8%
Indiana Unemployment: 4%
Vanderburgh County: 4.7%
Pike County: 3.9%
Perry County: 3.6%
Knox County: 3.4%
Warrick County: 3.4%
Posey County: 3.3%
Gibson County: 3.1%
Spencer County: 3.1%
Dubois County: 2.8%

% of unemployment claims affected industries:

Manufacturing: 27.9%
Construction: 17.4%
Retail 8.2%
Administrative 8.2%
Food Service 7.4%

Frequently listed jobs:

1. Farm Work
2. RN
3. Nurse Assistant
4. Truck Drivers
5. Production Workers

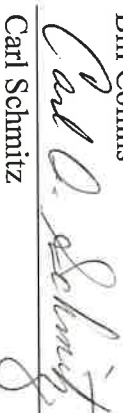
Posey County EMS Director, Chris Neaveill, addressed the Commissioners regarding staffing issues. Mr. Neaveill stated he is addressing these issues and is pushing part-time openings. Mr. Neaveill stated he has one full-time opening and one employee who has been off for over twelve weeks. Mr. Neaveill stated in the past, part-time employees have been approved to be paid for the full 24-hour shifts while working part-time.

Mr. Neaveill discussed the scheduling software with the Commissioners and options for improving that.

Posey County Highway Superintendent, Steve Schenk, stated bridge number 211 on Wildeman Road and on the historical list had deteriorated fast. Mr. Schenk stated he received an estimate from CivilCon to do engineering, site survey, geotechnical work, permitting, final design, hydraulic design, structure size and type, substructure design, superstructure design, and shop drawings, construction plans and details, bid specs, and documents. Mr. Schenk stated it would be everything the County would need to do, and the cost is \$67,600.00. Mr. Schenk stated this is about \$20,000.00 more than what it typically would be due to the historical nature of the project. C. Schmitz made a motion to approve this request; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

No further business was discussed, and the meeting adjourned.


Bill Collins


Carl O. Schmitz

Carl Schmitz


Randy Thornburg



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell